

Minutes of the Suffield Economic Development Commission
Jan. 16, 2014 – Town Hall Second Floor Conference Room – 8:30 a.m.

Members present:

Howard Orr, Roger Tracy, Susan Thorner, Gloria Smith, alt. Brian Banak

Absent: Lynda Montefusco, Caroline D'Otreppe

Also present: EDC Director Patrick McMahon

Chairman Howard Orr called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Voting rights were accorded to Brian Banak for Caroline D'Otreppe.

Minutes: Ms. Thorner moved to approve the EDC minutes of the December 19, 2013 meeting; Mr. Tracy seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Citizen Comment: None

Ff Tyler Place Redevelopment - Mr. McMahon reported that the Sage Engineering Study for the Highway Relocation has been completed. He emailed copies of the report to the members. Three viable locations are noted. The cost of the removal of the salt shelter or the cost of the removal of the Animal Pound is not included in the estimated costs. The ballpark figure is approximately \$2.1 million. Two of the sites are located on Town property (previously owned by Dewhirst) on Route #75. After a review by the Director, the EDC Commission by unanimous vote, supported the pursuit of Alternate B.

Light Industrial Development – After conducting interviews with three companies for the engineering design for the Utilities Extension Project, the Town has awarded the contract to Cardinal Engineering. Cardinal Engineering has done work for the Town in the past.

Director's Report –

Mr. McMahon reported that almost all of the funding necessary for the Kent Memorial Library ADA project is in place. Most of the funding is from grants and from private donations. It is anticipated that additional parking will be located on the south side of the Library. Groundbreaking is anticipated for late spring.

Bridge Street School – A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held today, at 1 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room to discuss the future of the Bridge Street School. It is noted that a heating system is in place and operating; the school is being heated.

Chamber of Commerce - The Chamber has placed in the Highland Market, a television monitor showing schedules of meetings, and other pertinent news of Suffield. This monitor program is scheduled for a three month trial period.

CDBG grant – The Town is working with the Housing Authority, noting needs such as new roofs, doors, etc. and compiling an estimate of cost in preparation for the submittal of a grant.

Bradley Development League – The BDL is investigating options for light rail and or bus way to Hartford and Bradley International Airport. This is a long term project.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbie C. Kling EDC.MINUTES.Jan.16.2014